

REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OF THE

IOWA SOLDIERS' ORPHANS' HOME,

AND

HOME FOR INDIGENT CHILDREN,

FOR THE TWO YEARS ENDING SEPTEMBER 30TH, 1877.

TO THE

SEVENTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

DES MOINES:
M. P. CLARKSON, STATE PRINTER
1877.

TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS.

TRUSTEES:

GEORGE PAUL, PRESIDENT.....*Iowa City.*
SETH P. BRYANT, SECRETARY.....*Davenport.*
R. P. SPEER, TREASURER.....*Cedar Falls.*

OFFICERS:

S. W. PIERCE.....*Superintendent.*
MRS. F. W. PIERCE.....*Matron.*
W. F. PECK, M. D.....*Physician.*

REPORT.

To the Seventeenth General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

We, the Trustees of the Soldiers' Orphans' Home and Home for Indigent Children, in accordance with law, herewith submit to your honorable body our Sixth Biennial Report, for the period commencing November 1st, 1875, and closing, September 30th, 1877.

By the continued blessings of an overruling Providence, and the earnest and continued efforts of the superintendent and matron and their assistants, we are enabled to report the Home under our supervision in a healthy and prosperous condition.

CLOSING THE HOME AT CEDAR FALLS.

In accordance with an act of the Sixteenth General Assembly, (chapter 94, section 9), on June 7th, 1876, we met the Trustees of the Normal School at the Home at Cedar Falls, and transferred to them the real estate and part of the personal property. The balance of the personal property, and the children, we transferred to the Home at Davenport.

In closing the Home at Cedar Falls, it was thought that a tribute to our fallen heroes could be appropriately recognized by erecting a monument to their loved ones who died under the fostering care of the State, and for that purpose the Board (whose term expired on June 7th, 1876), appropriated four hundred and fifty dollars from the support fund; the monument to be erected in the cemetery at Cedar Falls under the direction of G. B. Van Saun, R. P. Speer, and H. F. Tucker.

In closing the Home at Cedar Falls, we found the children well clothed and in good health, and the property, both real and personal, in good condition, all evidencing the excellent management of the able superintendent and matron, Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Tucker.

SOLDIERS' ORPHANS.

In the Home at Cedar Falls, November 1st, 1875.....	189
In the Home at Davenport, November 1st, 1875.....	109
Total.....	298
In the Cedar Falls Home, November 1st, 1875.....	189
Received at the Cedar Falls Home from Nov. 1st, 1875, to June 1st, 1876... ..	15
Total	204
Number discharged from November 1st, 1875, to June 1st, 1876.....	50
Number discharged from June 1st, 1876, to June 9th, 1876.....	51
Number transferred to the Davenport Home	103
Total	204
In the Davenport Home, November 1st, 1875	109
Number admitted on application	38
Number received from the Home at Cedar Falls.....	103
Total	250
Number discharged	100
Left without consent.....	9
Number died.....	2—111
Total number enrolled September 30th, 1877	139

INDIGENT CHILDREN.

In accordance with an enactment of the Sixteenth General Assembly, the Home was opened to indigent children in July 1876, and now contains forty-one indigent children from the following counties:

Benton.....	3	Jackson	1
Cedar.....	2	Johnson.....	2
Clinton.....	6	Linn.....	1
Clayton.....	2	Mahaska.....	4
Delaware.....	2	Polk.....	2
Greene.....	5	Story.....	3
Hardin.....	4	Scott.....	3
Jasper	1		—
Total.....	41		

Making the total number of children in attendance September 30, 1877, one hundred and eighty.

It is evident from the number of children now in the Home, and the many inquiries that are made in relation to obtaining admission, that

the wisdom and humanity of the law opening the Home to the indigent children of the various counties, has been fully demonstrated. Under the old customs the county authorities could dispose of such children only by adoption in private families, or by a permanent residence in the poor house. While there might be but little difficulty in finding a good home for *active* and *intelligent* children, yet few private families could be induced to receive the *dull*, *crippled*, or *unhealthy*. Consigning this class to the atmosphere and associations of the poor house, was simply training them to become paupers, and, perhaps worse—enemies of the public morality. Under the new system these children are assured of proper training and example, and are educated to become good citizens.

INDUSTRIAL PURSUITS.

The Fifteenth and Sixteenth General Assemblies appropriated \$1,500 for industrial purposes; \$1,050 of this amount has been drawn, and has been expended in a judicious manner. We refer you to the superintendent's report for a detailed statement.

BUILDINGS.

The buildings during the past two years (particularly the cottages,) have required much repairing, and have been a continued expense to make them comfortable for the children. It is desirable, and almost indispensable, that some seven new cottages be erected within the next two years. During the past season two neat, substantial brick cottages have been erected at a cost of \$3,050.00. We were enabled to draw this amount from the support fund owing to the receiving of over one hundred children at one time from Cedar Falls, all well clothed for six months, with their bedding, crockery, and the stores of various kinds, and a cash balance of \$361.61, and the low prices of almost all supplies.

HEALTH.

The health of the inmates of the Home is excellent, as will be seen by the reports of the superintendent and physician.

SCHOOLS.

The schools are thoroughly graded, and divided into three separate departments. Each department is in charge of an experienced teacher. The schools will compare favorably with the best graded schools in the State.

LIBRARY.

There are now in the library thirteen hundred volumes of books, selected with care and well suited to the juvenile reader.

LAND.

There is now belonging to the Home, forty acres of land. Owing to the location of the buildings, and the fact that two creeks pass through the land, only eight acres can be cultivated. We greatly need more tillable land. During the last season we have rented about twenty-six acres and cultivated it. Very desirable land can now be bought adjoining the Home, at a reasonable price, and we recommend an appropriation of \$4,000 for that purpose.

LAUNDRY.

The building used for laundry purposes, with the machinery, and one building occupied as a school-house, were destroyed by fire on July 6th, 1877. As a laundry is indispensable, after giving the subject proper investigation, we came to the conclusion that it would be a useless expenditure of money to erect a temporary building, consequently decided to erect a permanent one-and-a-half story brick building, 26x48 feet, with a basement for a boiler and engine-room, at a contract price of \$1,425. We also decided to put in machinery at a cost of about \$1,600, making the total cost of laundry and machinery \$3,025. By putting in improved machinery, we are enabled to dispense with the services of one employee. On the two buildings burned, there was an insurance of \$800 due, which amount was promptly paid, and we have used it in rebuilding; also, \$200 from the support fund.

We are in debt on the building to F. Kirk & Son \$425, to be paid February 1st, 1878. The machinery will be paid for from the support fund, which must be reimbursed, as the disbursements of that fund are much greater than its receipts during the fall and winter months.

Total indebtedness on laundry to F. Kirk & Son.....	\$ 425.00
To support fund.....	1,800.00
Total indebtedness.....	<u>\$2,225.00</u>

For which a special appropriation is asked.

APPROPRIATIONS.

We recommend the following appropriations:

For new cottages and out-buildings.....	\$15,000.00
For land.....	4,000.00
For furniture.....	1,500.00
For industrial pursuits.....	1,500.00
For lumber, hardware, and general repairs.....	2,500.00
For library.....	200.00
For reimbursing support fund on account of laundry.....	1,800.00
To F. Kirk & Son.....	425.00
Total.....	<u>\$26,925.00</u>

We call your attention to the report of the treasurer for a statement of receipts and disbursements.

We call your special attention to the report of Superintendent Pierce for a more detailed statement of the working and management of the institution, together with a statement of the receipts and expenditures for the biennial period.

We also call your attention to the statement of Superintendent H. F. Tucker.

S. P. BRYANT,
GEO. PAUL,
R. P. SPEER,

Trustees.

DAVENPORT, IOWA, Sept. 30, 1877.

TREASURERS' REPORTS.

REPORT OF TREASURER—GEO. B. VAN SAUN.

GEO. B. VAN SAUN, *Treasurer, in account with the State of Iowa:*

SUPPORT FUND.

1876. June 7.	To Warrants from Auditor of State for Cedar Falls Home.....	\$14,550.00
	To Warrants from Auditor of State for Davenport Home.....	\$ 8,530.00—\$23,080.00

IMPROVEMENT FUND.

	To Warrants from Auditor of State for Davenport Home.....	\$ 3,250.00
	To cash received from H. F. Tucker, Supt. Cedar Falls Home, being dif. in case of Phœbe M. Ellsworth at Deaf and Dumb Asylum.....	50.35
	To cash received from H. F. Tucker, Supt., being balance cash on hand Jan. 1, 1876.....	761.26
		<u>\$27,141.61</u>

CREDIT.

	By amount paid H. F. Tucker, Supt., Support Fund.....	\$13,010.00
	By amount paid S. W. Pierce, Supt., Support Fund.....	8,530.00
	By amount paid S. W. Pierce, Supt., Support Fund.....	3,250.00
	By amount paid for monument and fitting up grounds for deceased orphans at Cedar Falls Home, per order Board of Trustees,	450.00
	To cash paid S. W. Pierce, Supt., by order of the Board, (being cash on hand).....	1,901.61—\$27,141.61

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. B. VAN SAUN, *Treasurer.*

Cedar Falls, June 7, 1876.

REPORT OF TREASURER—ROBERT P. SPEER.

To the Board of Trustees of the Iowa Soldiers' Orphans' Home:

GENTLEMEN:—In accordance with law I present below my report of the receipts and disbursements for the Iowa Soldiers' Orphans' Home from June 7th, A. D., 1876, to October 30th, A. D., 1877, inclusive.

R. P. SPEER *in account with the State of Iowa.*

SUPPORT FUND.

1876. June 7th.	To warrants from Auditor of State.....	\$32,130.00.
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INDUSTRIAL FUND.

1876. June 7th.	To warrants from Auditor of State.....	\$ 500.00.
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IMPROVEMENT FUND.

1876. June 7th.	To warrants from Auditor of State	\$ 1,100.00—\$33,730.00
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CR.

By amount paid S. W. Pierce, Superintendent.....\$33,730.00

Respectfully submitted,

R. P. SPEER, *Treasurer.*

Cedar Falls, Iowa, October 30, A. D., 1877.

BIENNIAL REPORT
OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE
SOLDIERS' ORPHANS' HOME.
AND
HOME FOR INDIGENT CHILDREN,
AT
DAVENPORT, IOWA.

REPORT.

TO THE HON. BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE IOWA SOLDIERS' ORPHANS' HOME AND HOME FOR INDIGENT CHILDREN :

GENTLEMEN : I have the honor of presenting for your consideration a report of this institution for the biennial period ending September 30th, 1877.

The number of soldiers' orphans enrolled November 1st, 1875, was one hundred and nine. The number received from the state at large since that date is thirty-eight. The Sixteenth General Assembly directed the closing of the Soldiers' Orphans' Home at Cedar Falls, and the transfer of the children here; accordingly, on June 9th, 1876, one hundred and three children were added to our enrollment from that Home, making the total attendance two hundred and fifty. One hundred have been discharged; two have died, and nine have left without our consent, leaving a total of one hundred and thirty-nine soldiers' orphans.

The Sixteenth General Assembly very wisely opened this institution to all indigent children in the State that may apply for admission through the supervisors of the several counties, according to chapter 94, Laws of the Sixteenth General Assembly.

Since July 1st, 1876, forty-one indigent children have been admitted from fifteen different counties under the new law as follows :

Benton.....	3	Jackson	1
Cedar	2	Johnson	2
Clinton	6	Linn	1
Clayton	2	Mahaska.....	4
Delaware	2	Polk.....	2
Greene	5	Story	3
Hardin.....	4	Scott	3
Jasper	1		—
Total.....			41

The total number of inmates of the Home at this time is one hundred and thirty-nine soldiers' orphans, and forty-one indigent children, making in all one hundred and eighty.

Urgent appeals have been made for the admission of more than sixty indigent children, that have not been admitted because county supervisors would not consent.

The mental and physical condition of many of the children that have been admitted here under the new law, is such as to prove the great need of a home for them, and the wisdom of the legislation creating it.

The interest manifested in this institution by all who visit it, or otherwise become acquainted with its workings, is such as to greatly encourage us in the great work before us.

The expense of maintaining and educating dependent children here should not be felt a burden to tax payers, for they *must* be maintained somewhere; if not here, then in the poor houses, or, after a few years, in our penal institutions. That it is cheaper to prevent crime than to attempt to cure it, or that it would be cheaper to allow children to shift for themselves, no well informed person will assert. There should be a law prohibiting the sending of any child to the poor house. The poor house may feed and clothe children, but it fails to educate them or develop good citizens. At least eighty per cent. of the crime of New England, says a good authority, is committed by those who have no education. Mr. R. S. Dugdale, of the New York prison association, estimates that *one* family in a certain county in New York State has cost the State in various ways, including assistance, expense of convictions, maintenance in prison, loss of property by fire and robbery, &c., more than \$100,000.00 during the past seventy-five years, and it is his firm conviction, and that of others who have looked carefully into the history of this family, that most of this crime, misery and expense could have been saved by a reasonable care and training of the children of this family in each generation. It is a law of civilization that a government must provide for educating its people, and thereby it provides for its own security. Pennsylvania has suffered more the present year from sixty thousand ignorant laborers, than the cost of education in ten years. The debt we owe society must be paid in some way, either now or by and by.

We are greatly encouraged in our labors by the fact that ninety-five per cent. of the children that go out from us become useful citizens and fill places of trust and honor in a creditable manner.

This institution has been established thirteen and one-third years.

During that time one thousand and three hundred different children have enjoyed its benefits, and twenty-five per cent. of them have by its influences been saved from lives of vice and crime.

The home in all its departments is prosperous. The grounds are improving in appearance each year. The children are divided into eight separate families of from twenty to thirty in each, and occupy as many different buildings situated in the form of a hollow square. Each family is presided over by a kind and competent christian lady. The smaller children are in families by themselves. The girls occupy one part of the grounds and the boys another. The children are taught habits of industry and obedience. All are required to bathe thoroughly, and are provided with clean clothes every Saturday and oftener when necessary, and sleep in well ventilated apartments. They are provided with a plentiful supply of wholesome food at regular intervals. They have regular hours for eating, sleeping, working and playing, and do a good amount of each. Children are never allowed to go to school or to their meals with ragged clothes or uncombed hair and unwashed faces and hands. Their physical, mental and moral natures are each developed. Only good influences surround them. We aim to combine a proper amount of labor and education.

The schools are in session nine months in the year, five days in the week and five hours in the day. One hour each evening, except Saturday and Sunday, is devoted to study. The older boys are not in school from the first of April to the first of October, as they are needed on the farm. The youngest children are in school but two hours in the forenoon and one hour in the afternoon. Children do not attend school till they are six years old. The condition of our schools is, and has been good. They are now divided into three well graded departments: primary, intermediate and grammar. Each department is presided over by a faithful and competent teacher. The classes in the several grades at the close of the year passed excellent examinations. A large class of excellent scholars have gone from our grammar school that will do credit to themselves and the State.

The Sabbath services consist of Sabbath-school in the chapel at nine o'clock, A. M., and preaching at half past three P. M. A weekly prayer meeting is held each Tuesday evening in the chapel that all the children attend.

The library consists of one thousand three hundred volumes of excellent books, and is prized by all.

The sanitary condition of the Home has been, and is excellent.

Two only have died. On the 19th of February, 1876, Mattie Leake died after a brief illness of brain fever. On December 2nd, 1876, Henry Showers died of consumption. There have been no other cases of sickness but have yielded readily to simple remedies. (The sudden death in February, 1877, of Mrs. M. P. Woods, a lady in charge of our smallest girls, was a great loss to them and us. She had labored with us for nearly two years, and was beloved by all who knew her.) Dr. W. F. Peck, our physician, has, as ever, always responded promptly in person or by substitute, to all our calls. For further report in sanitary matters, you are respectfully referred to the physician's report.

The condition of the property, excepting the frame buildings, is good. A new and complete bake-oven has been built which is heated with coal. It adds much to our cooking facilities. A sewer has been built for six hundred feet to conduct the waste water from the kitchen and drain the cellar into the creek. The covered walk has been rebuilt for about four hundred feet. New floors have been laid. Five cottages and two school-rooms were fitted up for the accommodation of the children received from Cedar Falls. Roofs have been patched or partly resingled; chimneys have been rebuilt; fences have been rebuilt and kept in good repair, etc.

Appointed, as I was, by you to take charge of the Cedar Falls Home in addition to my other duties, I did so from June 1st, 1876, till the affairs of that Home were closed up and the children brought here. The former superintendent and matron, Mr. H. F. Tucker and wife, very kindly consented to assist me in the work of closing the Home and removing the children and furniture to Davenport, and did so in every way possible. I was received by them and all the employes and children of the institution with the most perfect cordiality; everything being done to make my labors as pleasant as possible. Mr. and Mrs. Tucker, with the employes, except the teachers, remained till the children left. All the books, vouchers and other papers belonging to the institution, were turned over to me for safe keeping.

The enrollment on June 1st, 1876, as reported by the former superintendent, was one hundred and fifty-four. On June 9th, one hundred and three children were transferred from the Cedar Falls to the Davenport Home.

The various industries of the institution are under the immediate supervision of the superintendent and matron.

In each department there is a thorough system of labor, so that each child old enough to work has something to do each day. The girls

make their beds, sweep their rooms, scrub the floors, make and mend their clothing, wash and iron, nurse the sick, do the dining hall and kitchen work, and a few of the girls each year are taught to cook.

The boys make *their* beds, sweep, scrub the floors, build the fires, cut the wood, cultivate the farm and garden, assist in taking care of the stock and milking the cows, &c. Six of the boys have been instructed in the making of brooms and brushes during last winter, and with the help of an instructor made twelve hundred brooms and two hundred and forty brushes.

Under the direction of Mr. G. M. Suter, the book-keeper and general assistant, they have, aside from the plowing, done nearly all the work of cultivating thirty-five acres of land. As our crops are not yet harvested for this year, I cannot give you a correct statement of their amount and value.

The estimated amount of the crops for the two seasons is as follows:

FOR 1876.	FOR 1877.
Bushels peas..... 8	Bushels table beets..... 75
Bushels string beans..... 12	Bushels onions..... 1,000
Bushels potatoes..... 166	Bushels potatoes..... 150
Bushels onions..... 211	Heads cabbage..... 2,700
Bushels tomatoes..... 59	Bushels turnips..... 53
Bushels turnips..... 73	Bushels string beans..... 32
Bushels parsnips..... 18	Bushels shelled beans..... 15
Bushels carrots..... 45	Bushels tomatoes..... 93
Bushels shelled beans..... 13	Bushels peas..... 10
Bushels corn..... 300	Bushels parsnips..... 20
Bushels table beets..... 70	Bushels carrots..... 120
Bushels sweet potatoes..... 18	Bushels field corn..... 400
Bushels rutabagas..... 10	Bushels mangel wurzels..... 300
Bushels mangel wurzels..... 160	Dozen cucumbers..... 75
Dozen squashes... 20½	Dozen ears sweet corn..... 80
Dozen cucumbers..... 98	Dozen Squashes..... 11
Dozen ears sweet corn..... 238	Loads pumpkins..... 18
Heads cabbage..... 213	Tons hay..... 12
Loads pumpkins..... 2	Pounds asparagus..... 150
Tons hay..... 2	Pounds lettuce..... 40
Pounds asparagus..... 75	Pounds pie plant..... 200
Pounds pie plant..... 120	
Pounds lettuce..... 30	

This work has been carried on regularly without employing a farmer. We are doing all we can to make our industrial department a success;

the very small appropriation for it has enabled us to do but little more than rent and cultivate a few acres of land. We need at least \$1,500 for industrial pursuits for the next *two* years, that we may continue to rent and cultivate land, &c. I cannot refrain from urging an appropriation for the *purchase* of desirable land that adjoins us on the west and south. This land we need, and it can now be bought at a price that will make the investment a good one for the State, as the land is yearly increasing in value. Three hundred and twenty grape vines; two hundred and thirty raspberry bushes; one hundred and seventy-five currant bushes, and two hundred hop vines have been set out on well selected ground and are doing well. Forty young cherry and apple trees, several hundred apple seedlings have been grown, and a goodly number of shade trees. The design is to do what we can in nursery work on about a half acre, that the boys may be taught to bud, graft, &c.

The following amounts will be needed for the next two years as special appropriations :

For industrial pursuits.....	\$ 1,500.00
For lumber, hardware and general repairs.....	2,500.00
For furniture.....	1,500.00
For library.....	200.00
For purchase of land for farming.....	4,000.00
For seven new cottages and out buildings.....	15,000.00
For amount due on laundry.....	2,225.00
Total.....	\$26,925.00

Suitable tools and implements have been provided for use.

The live stock is in good condition, and consists of four horses; fifteen cows; eighty-three hogs and shoats, and fifty fowls. Our wagons, carriages, horses and tools are in good condition.

During the biennial period the Home live stock produced and we consumed the following :

6 beeves killed, weighing.....	2,788 pounds.	\$ 222.80
14 calves killed, weighing.....	1,119 pounds.	89.52
17 hogs killed, weighing.....	3,210 pounds.	257.92
165 chickens killed, weighing.....	471 pounds.	44.24
12040 gallons of milk, valued at.....		1,897.40
462 dozens eggs, valued at.....		57.50
Total value.....		\$2,569.38

The condition of all the frame buildings is very poor. One building was destroyed by wind, and another partly so. The building now occupied by the primary and grammar schools, cannot be used with safety longer than the present winter. On the 6th of July last, two buildings were destroyed by fire; one was a school building, the other was the laundry. On the next day the buildings used as kitchen, dining room, bakery, &c., caught fire but received only slight damage. These fires originated from sparks lodging on the old dry shingles of the roofs.

It should be remembered that these buildings were put up in 1862 to be used for a short time as a soldiers' camp and that in 1865, the general government gave them to the State of Iowa to be used as a Soldiers' Orphans' Home. They are now in such a condition from wear and tear and decay that it is a sad waste of money to try to make them safe and comfortable abodes for children, or to adapt them to the varied wants of the institution. The time has come when as a matter of economy and comfort, there should be erected as fast as possible during the coming biennial period such new and substantial buildings as are needed to shelter these children and make this institution a credit to the State. Ohio, Illinois and Michigan, each now have fine brick structures in which to care for and to educate their orphaned children and I trust that Iowa will see that her children are not forgotten. In view of the above facts you very wisely decided that it was best for the comfort and safety of the children, to erect two new brick cottages the past season. They are now completed and occupied by the smallest girls. They are plain substantial one and one-half story brick buildings 30x50 ft. and were built at a cost of \$3,050.00. They were paid for from our general support fund balance. The receiving as we did from the Cedar Falls Home over one hundred children at one time and in the summer, all well clothed for six months, with their bedding crockery, and the stores of various kinds they had on hand, and a cash balance of \$361.61, together with the most careful management of all our funds, enabled us to accumulate the above amount. The new cottages enabled us to vacate two old and uncomfortable buildings. One of these has been fitted up for a school house.

Necessity demanded the erection of a laundry at once, and by your order a suitable building has been erected and supplied with the necessary machinery and the appliances that make it a first class laundry. It is supplied with one hydraulic washing machine; one new tubular boiler; an engine, steam pump, &c. As we had no funds except the

\$800.00 insurance on the old buildings with which to rebuild, we have been obliged to incur a debt, which it is to be hoped the legislature will relieve us of at an early day. We have taken \$200.00 from our living fund, which with the \$800.00 insurance is all that has yet been paid. There is \$425.00 due on the building, and \$1,600 due on the boiler and machinery. Therefore, we ask for a special appropriation of the \$200.00 taken from our living fund; also, the \$2,025.00 due on the building and machinery, making in all \$2,225.00. The general external appearance of the laundry is similar to that of the new cottages, and would be a credit to any institution. It is a one and a half story brick, 26 x 48 feet, with a basement for engine and boiler, and will do our work at a cost of \$200.00 a year less than the old one.

There should be at least seven brick cottages built for the children the coming year. This can be done for \$15,000.00. I trust that it will be borne in mind by all that nothing has ever been done by the State for this institution in the way of permanent improvements, although during the last ten years, \$20,000.00 has been appropriated and expended here for sundry repairs. It is much better to put money into suitable buildings of a permanent nature and stop this constant patching and repairing of old ones.

STATEMENT

Showing the total Receipts and Expenditures from Nov. 1, 1875, to Sept. 30, 1877.

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand November 1st, 1875.....	\$ 467.98
Cash from G. B. Van Saun, Treas., (Support Fund).....	10,070.00
Cash from G. B. Van Saun, Treas., (balance from Cedar Falls Home).....	361.61
Cash from G. B. Van Saun, Treas., (Improvement Fund).....	2,500.00
Cash from G. B. Van Saun, Treas., (Industrial Fund).....	550.00
Cash from G. B. Van Saun, Treas., (Library Fund).....	200.00
Cash from R. P. Speer, Treas., (Support Fund).....	30,328.50
Cash from R. P. Speer, Treas., (Improvement Fund).....	1,100.00
Cash from R. P. Speer, Treas., (Industrial Fund).....	500.00
Cash from all other sources, (as shown by tabular statement).....	1,614.40
Total receipts.....	\$47,692.48

EXPENDITURES.

For groceries and provisions.....	\$11,153.76
For salaries.....	13,431.50
For clothing.....	5,062.28
For improvements and repairs.....	2,420.67
For furniture.....	1,970.15
For incidental expenses, (including \$4,000.00 for new buildings).....	5,236.60
For books and stationery.....	323.78
For drugs and medicines.....	214.51
For live stock.....	1,398.07
For fuel.....	2,522.42
For lights.....	261.17
For library.....	189.24
For industrial pursuits.....	1,016.50
Total expenditures.....	\$45,210.65
Balance cash on hand September 30, 1877.....	\$ 2,481.83

The following Statement shows the Receipts and Expenditures of the Special Appropriation of \$3,600.00, made by the Sixteenth General Assembly, for the Several Accounts, as follows:

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand November 1, 1875.....	\$ 383.89
Cash from G. B. Van Saun, Treasurer.....	2,500.00
Cash from R. P. Speer, Treasurer.....	1,100.00
Cash from sale of brick.....	68.30
Cash from sale of paint, shingles, lumber, &c.....	77.15
Insurance on laundry and school house burned.....	800.00
Total receipts.....	\$4,929.34

EXPENDITURES.

For furniture, including pumps.....	\$ 742.35
For painting, repairs and whitewashing.....	200.00
For building fence.....	192.10
For steam fitting and washing machines for laundry.....	151.77
For lumber, hardware, carpenter's work, and repairs on buildings.....	1,440.68
For building oven.....	500.00
Total expenditures.....	\$3,226.90
Balance cash on hand September 30, 1877.....	\$1,702.44

The following Statement shows the Receipts and Expenditures on account of the Industrial Fund:

RECEIPTS.

Cash from G. B. Van Saun, Treasurer.....	\$ 550.00
Cash from R. P. Speer, Treasurer.....	500.00
Total receipts.....	\$1,050.00

EXPENDITURES.

For rent of land.....	\$ 167.50
For tools and implements.....	318.02
For seeds and plants.....	157.35
For labor, including instruction and labor in broom making..	287.95
For broom material.....	40.43
For lumber and wire for vineyard.....	45.25
Total expenditures.....	\$1,016.50
Balance cash on hand September 30, 1877.....	\$ 33.50

A TABULAR

Of Receipts and Expenditures on account of the Iowa Soldiers' Orphans'

DATE.	RECEIPTS.										
	From treasurer.	Groceries and provisions.	Salaries.	Clothing.	Improvements and repairs.	Furniture.	Incidental expenses.	Books and stationery.	Drugs and medicines.	Live stock.	Fuel.
November.....1875	\$1,140.00	\$ 4.50		\$ 9.65	\$10.00		\$1.65	\$1.40		\$4.00	
December.....1875	1,080.00			4.85			1.00	3.15		33.75	
January.....1876	1,070.00			4.35	57.50		1.75	2.05			
February.....1876	1,030.00			1.85			1.35	1.40			
March.....1876	1,050.00	5.00		7.45			2.00	5.85			
April.....1876	1,040.00	29.60		7.92	2.58		1.80	5.00		\$1.00	
May.....1876	1,040.00	4.30	\$5.00	27.93	6.07		1.25	2.00			
June.....1876	2,981.61	50.20		9.60	68.30		2.10	2.80		5.00	
July.....1876	2,140.00	.65		6.30			2.65	2.15			
August.....1876	2,122.00			9.03			3.40	2.45	1.65	1.00	
September.....1876	2,070.00	25.40	3.00	4.10			1.80	1.15			
October.....1876	2,080.00	26.10		8.34		\$1.00	3.52	2.87			
November.....1876	2,080.00	.65		5.65			1.82	2.05			
December.....1876	2,013.00			17.82		3.90	1.15	2.30		4.00	
January.....1877	2,045.00			4.00			4.85	2.30			
February.....1877	2,075.00	13.35		2.15			3.35	1.75	6.15		3.78
March.....1877	2,100.00	12.59		4.15		3.00	4.50	3.75	.55	14.00	4.00
April.....1877	2,115.00	8.35		28.28			3.15	2.00		8.00	2.80
May.....1877	2,050.00	7.00		8.05			2.15	.70	.50		1.40
June.....1877	1,940.00	6.53	1.00	2.65			2.16	2.15	.25		
July.....1877	1,865.00	6.59	11.00	1.35	400.00		5.15	.70			3.38
August.....1877	1,828.50	33.88		4.16			2.30	1.25	3.15		
September.....1877	1,805.00	14.50	2.50	3.45	400.00	2.00	2.15	4.30			
Improvement fund.....	3,600.00										
Industrial fund.....	1,050.00										
Library fund.....	200.00										
Total.....	45,610.11	249.19	23.10	178.08	944.45	9.90	57.00	55.52	13.05	67.75	16.36
Total receipts.....										\$47,224.51	
Cash on hand November 1, 1875.....										467.97	
Total.....										\$47,692.48	

STATEMENT

Home at Davenport from November 1, 1875, to September 30, 1877.

EXPENDITURES.													
Groceries and provisions.	Salaries.	Clothing.	Improvements and repairs.	Furniture.	Incidental expenses.	Books and stationery.	Drugs and medicines.	Live stock.	Fuel.	Lights.	Library.	Industrial pursuits.	
\$281.13	\$522.33	\$ 203.38	\$ 50.00	\$ 36.97	\$ 7.15	\$ 1.43	\$ 8.10	\$ 13.95					
312.54	5 0.18	83.20	55.68	44.45	15.50	18.00	6.80	8.00	283.38	8.55			
219.84	515.33	160.61	30.50	56.57	5.25	11.50	2.10	47.31	124.08				
317.04	433.33	43.61		4.65	27.00	1.00	8.37	5.90	101.65				
255.07	506.18	94.18	7.00	131.76	15.06	13.95		90.32	90.59				
315.44	53 53	179.91	57.12	9.40	14.70	6.53	6.40		35.52		7.70	2.30	
216.35	516.73	134.35	69.64	74.55	26.60			76.37	103.61		44.50	128.23	
704.92	665.94	216.16	760.18	90.10	418.59		3.00	104.58	31.20		16.25	10.02	
375.70	487.23	82.83	788.64	70.25	19.55	12.56	14.20	38.50	103.68			40.80	
512.78	516.58	121.63	338.74	143.53	22.65	5.12	11.55	16.20	12.00			2.55	
576.58	625.33	105.72	75.93	103.91	130.20	18.49	8.93	94.70	36.85		15.75	8.80	
636.37	657.38	452.33	36.95	290.80	21.05	70.65	14.00	1.01	321.01	126.09			
1312.25	665.83	212.02	61.15	58.62	22.00	9.20	10.60	268.03	202.54	18.90	5.25	29.45	
614.93	628.45	481.67	26.00	182.50	113.25	38.91	11.45	10.35	321.10		52.89		
500.90	674.05	192.69	67.45	68.67	44.80	43.65	3.90	19.67	354.08		2.00	53.50	
779.71	646.60	313.45	56.22	19.40	42.30	5.25	20.88	25.40	162.77			41.83	
531.01	649.35	487.73	32.00	49.95	33.79	27.57	18.85	97.88	44.83	50.00	29.40	198.15	
446.62	657.85	110.23	26.40	122.40	5.75	5.11	11.20	250.85				58.03	
480.41	630.10	368.19	49.45	91.38	29.10	8.37	12.31	23.35				104.25	
572.70	537.25	127.77	5.98	78.00	439.68	7.20	21.23					99.17	
462.91	548.65	123.13	63.86	38.41	1,634.28	7.60	8.10	29.20	77.94	51.93	5.75	60.55	
221.51	583.85	262.57	39.60	7.15	544.00		6.88	50.80				154.00	
577.15	590.55	163.12	123.88	213.27	1,524.35	18.60	5.63	111.20	125.54			30.35	
Total.....	11,153.76	13,421.56	5,062.28	2,420.67	1,970.15	5,236.60	321.78	214.51	1,398.07	2,532.42	261.17	189.24	1,016.50
Total Expenditures.....													\$45,210.65
Balance cash on hand September 30, 1877.....													2,481.83
Total.....													\$47,692.48

The children and employes unite with me in many thanks to the several clergymen of the city for services rendered on Sabbath afternoons.

Thanks are due to the C., R. I. & P., Dav. & N. W., Ch. & N. W., and Burlington & C. R. railroads for their kindness and favors to our children. On the removal of the children from Cedar Falls to Davenport, I received a free pass for sixty-four children and myself, as follows: Over the B. & C. R. railroad from Cedar Falls to Cedar Rapids; over the C. & N. W. from Cedar Rapids to Dewitt; and over the Dav. & N. W. from Dewitt to Davenport. For the above we wish to express our warmest thanks.

We wish also to return our thanks to the publishers of the following for donations of the same: Davenport Daily Gazette; Davenport Daily Democrat; Daily State Register, Des Moines; State Press, Iowa City; Odd Fellows' Banner, Bloomfield, Iowa; New York Witness; Alliance, Chicago; The World, New York; Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper; The Presbyterian, Phila.; Prairie Farmer, Chicago; Philadelphia Press; American Rural Home, Rochester, N. Y.; Presbyterian Banner, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Cleveland Herald; Hartford Courant, Conn.; Public Opinion, Chambersburg, Pa.; Temperance Vindicator, Harrisburg, Pa.; Christian Advocate, Buffalo, N. Y.; Lippincott's Magazine; Western Rural, Chicago; Clinton Herald; Examiner and Express, Lancaster, Pa.; Journal, Columbus, O.; Arthur's Home Magazine; Christian Union, N. Y.; The People, Indianapolis Ind.; Daily National Republican, Washington, D. C.; Sunday Republic, Phila, Pa.; and Weekly Chronotype, Westboro, Mass.

Thanking you, gentlemen, for the sympathy and support you have ever given me, I submit this, my fifth biennial report of the institution.

Yours, respectfully,

L. W. PIERCE, *Sup't.*,

Davenport, Iowa, Sept. 30, 1877.

REPORT OF H. F. TUCKER FROM NOV. 1, 1875 TO JUNE 1, 1876.

Statement of the Attendance and Receipts and Expenditures of the Iowa Soldiers' Orphans' Home at Cedar Falls, for the seven months ending June 1, 1876.

Number of children in attendance November 1, 1875.....	189
Number admitted on application	8
Number returned after prolonged absence.....	7
Total attendance.....	204
Number discharged.....	50
Attendance, June 1, 1876.....	154

RECEIPTS.

To balance, November 1, 1875.....	\$ 910.46
To received from George B. Van Saun, treasurer.....	13,010.00
To received from other sources.....	238.71
Total.....	\$14,159.17

DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid for clothing and furnishing.....	\$ 1,834.20
Paid for groceries and provisions.....	4,085.42
Paid for furniture.....	48.63
Paid for improvements and repairs.....	69.45
Paid for fuel	1,925.43
Paid for light	85.56
Paid for tools and implements.....	2.90
Paid for books and stationery.....	78.98
Paid for drugs and medicine.....	12.00
Paid for salaries.....	4,663.09
Paid for incidental expenses	592.16
Paid George B. Van Saun, treasurer.....	761.26
Total	\$14,159.17

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY F. TUCKER, *Superintendent.*

Cedar Falls, Iowa, May 31, 1876.

HEALTH REPORT.

To the Board of Trustees Iowa Soldiers' Orphans' Home:

GENTLEMEN :—Since making my last report the general health of the children of the Home has been very good. No disease has occurred in an epidemic form, with one single exception—whooping cough—which passed away, leaving no ill consequences. There have been a greater number of cases of injuries than occurred during the two years comprised by my last biennial report. The free use of swings and other apparatus for sport and physical improvement has furnished not a few cases of sprains and bruises. No case has been permanently maimed or otherwise seriously injured. For disease of the knee-joint extremity of the thigh bone, I performed an amputation of the thigh, on a girl of twelve years. She had suffered for some years before her admission. Recovery is complete and she is now strong and healthy.

Two deaths have occurred. Henry Showers died December 2d, 1876, of consumption; Mattie Leake died February 19, 1876, of inflammation of the membranes of the brain. Judging from the physical appearance of those who are coming in under the re-organization, it is evident that the sick roll will be much larger than it has been since the establishment of the Home. The Soldiers' Orphans represented better constitutions than is shown by recent admissions. In accounting for the small mortality, I cannot but believe that it is attributable to the regular and systematic course of life led by the inmates. The food has been plain, sufficient and well cooked. The clothing has been abundant and of desirable quality. The early hour for going to bed and getting up, supplies the necessary time for sleep. The old and worn out cottages furnished plenty of ventilation, which is decidedly advantageous where so many occupy the small and illy adapted apartments.

The excellent general care of the children exercised by Mr. and Mrs. Pierce, has done very much towards maintaining the uniform standard of health, which is not surpassed by any similar institution in the country. In the location of the new colleges, I am pleased to report, that ample drainage has been secured; and if the system inaugurated shall be completed, no institution, for the purposes contemplated, can be more appropriately arranged.

Yours, respectfully,

W. F. PECK.